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By His Excellency
Thomas Chittenden
Governor. Captain General. and Commander in Chief. in
and over the State of Vermont
A. P. R. O. C. L. A. M. A. T. I. O. N.

It being the indispensible duty of us a people. to acknowledge
our absolute dependence on the supreme Ruler of the
Universe, by seeking for direction and success in all our
affairs; and the approaches of spring more especially call-
- ing upon us to implore the divine blessing on the concerns
and occurrences of the ensuing year. and to humble ourselves
for our sins.

I. H. R. V. C. therefore thought fit by and with the advice
of the Council to appoint. and I do hereby appoint Wednes-
- day. the sixth day of April next to be observed as a day of
Public Humiliation. Fasting and Prayer throughout
this State: And do hereby exhort ministers and people
of every religious denomination. to assemble on said day.
at their respective places of public worship. humbly
to acknowledge their sins. and supplicate divine forgi-
veness through the merits of Jesus Christ. - That he would
restore needed mercies - order in righteousness the
internal government of the State - that he would direct to the
the President. Senate. and House of Representatives of
the United States of America. and direct them in all their
consultations to the advancement of his glory. the good of his
church. the safety. honor. and welfare of his people -
that he would secure the invaluable blessings of just and
equal government to the United States. and that he would
extend that Government to all nations which establishes
civil and religious liberty. founded upon the rational
rights of the people - that he would save our land from
all wasting sickness. pestilence. drought. insects. and every
desolating judgement - that he would favor agriculture

and cause the earth to yield its increase - that he would graciously bestow his blessing upon all schools and seminaries of learning; that they may be nurseries of piety, and extensively useful - that he would continue peace to us, defend our frontiers, and terminate our contest with the Indians by casting weeds of unity and reciprocal advantages put an end now to tyranny, and to despotism, and humble the proud oppressors of mankind:

And that the kind author of these blessings will be graciously pleased to prolong them to us, to imprint on our hearts a deep solemn sense of our obligations to him for them; to teach us rightly to estimate their value; to dispose us to merit a continuance of his favors, by not abusing them, by our gratitude for them, and by a correspondent conduct as citizens and as men; to extend among us true and useful knowledge; to diffuse and establish acts of solemnity, order, morality, and piety; and finally, to impart all the blessings we pray for or ask for ourselves to the whole family of mankind; shed down the influences of holy spirit - put an end to error - vice - and decaying religion through this land and the world; that he would for this end help the ministers of his holy word - grant them more abundant measures of knowledge and grace; that he would build up churches in the faith, purity, and fellowship of the gospel - and advance the peaceful glorious kingdom of GOD our Saviour throughout the world

And I do earnestly recommend to the good people of this State, to abstain from all servile labour and recreation inconsistent with the duties of said day.

Given under my hand at Williston this fifth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety six and of our Independence the twentieth

By His Excellency's Command

Thomas Chittenden

Jeremiah Eq. Secretary

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE